

Hertfordshire Quality Protects Children's Budget for 2001/02

Quality Protects Special Grant	Business Case	FYE in 2001/2 of 2000/01 Allocation £'000	New Allocation for 2001/02 £'000	Total 2001/02 Allocation £'000
1A - Placement Choice	To develop additional placement choice for LAC and so enhance placement stability, as required by Quality Protects MAP Objective 1. Our target is to reduce the number of children who have three or more placements a year to 6% by 2001.			
1.1 - Fostering	Increase number of foster placements and support to foster carers as required by Quality Protects MAP. The proportion of looked after children who are in foster placements has risen to 77%, and our aim is to raise it to 80% by 2004.			
*1 a) Foster Carer Support Additional 2.0 Support foster carers/ 24 hour support for mainstream foster placements	Additional 2.0 Support foster carers/ 24 hour support to prevent mainstream foster placement breakdown and avert out-County placements. 2000/01 development agreed in 1999/2000 MAP to help meet the placement stability target of 6% (see above) and to contribute to retention of foster carers.	28		28
*3 b) 0.5 wte Social Worker for West quadrant Fostering Team	Averaging 15 carers with a minimum of 22.5 placements per FTE social worker already, they have no capacity for additional recruitment and foster carer support work. This will help meet the placement stability and foster placement recruitment targets (see above).		17	17
*3 c) 0.5 Admin to support recruitment strategy centrally for the whole county.	The recruitment strategy needs a dedicated admin person, able to work with a high degree of independence and with good IT skills, to develop the database of resources / sources, to analyse data and to work on own initiative. This will help the recruitment process and the work to meet National Foster Care Standards.		10	10
*3 d) Emergency carer service: £25,000 for short-term emergency Foster Placements	4 carers, one per area who would offer emergency placements to EDT and daytime emergencies for up to 10 working days. This would be for children who are need emergency placements for child protection reasons, or for young people who are held in police custody. Carers would be recruited who could take 'all ages' and would be supported by Fostering Project outreach service.		25	25
1.2 - Permanent Fostering				
*2 3 enhanced permanent placements for children with complex needs	To move on children with complex needs, eg disability, waiting for permanent placements. Annual development agreed in 1999/2000 MAP to help met placement stability targets and to free up short-term foster placements.	32		32
1.3 - Residential Family Assessment				
*1 Residential Family Assessment Unit Bengeo expansion using a neighbouring house on site	To increase capacity to support a third family and to provide space for Health clinical support sessions. FYE of 2000/1 MAP development to provide a less expensive and more local resource than out-County alternatives.	29		29
1.4 - Kinship Placements				
*3 a) 4 wte SW's for Short-Term Fostering Teams to meet requirements of the kinship strategy.	Kinship Strategy is aimed at locating placements with their extended families and "significant others" for children who cannot live with their nuclear families. This helps meet our aim to reduce LAC numbers. For those who do come into the LAC system in this way, it helps increase the overall pool of placements. It is necessary that kinship placement meet the statutory requirements of the National Standards for Foster Care. In order to do so, FPS will need to take over support for 80 existing placements (currently held in District Teams) and assessment of approx 20 new placements per year. They will also encourage the use of Residence Orders when appropriate and support carers through the process.		87	87
*3 b) 4 x 0.5 Admin for Fostering Teams to support kinship strategy work.	To support the administrative requirements of this work, and to free up Fostering Team social workers to support carers and placements.		25	25
*3 c) Increase to Quadrant Team Section 17 budget to fund non-LAC kinship placements	To help reduce LAC numbers by achieving a target of 12 non-LAC kinship placements per quadrant Total : 48 placements		125	125

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1.5 - Early Rehabilitation *3 NCH Over 10's Family Support Service increase of 4.0 wte social workers for early rehab	Research identifies that LAC most likely to be rehabilitated home in the first month after being accommodated. This is a key element of our LAC Exit Strategy. District Teams have found it difficult to make time to do this work although NCH have had some success, but are currently unable to fully carry out this work, which was added to the Specification after the Contract was placed. It would also free up social work time in District Teams to work with other client groups.		55	55			
Total expenditure planned for Placement Choice (excluding Adoption)		89	344	433			
1 B - Placement Choice - Adoption 1.6 - Homefinding *1 a) 2.0 wte additional SWs for adoption placement recruitment campaign *3 b) 2 x 0.5 Admin support for each of the Long Term / Adoption Teams 1.7 Adoption Allowances *3 To allow for projected increase in supported adoption placements due in Year 2001/2002 1.8 - Post Adoption Support *3 Post Adoption Support: *3 a) 1 Post Adoption Co-ordinator to develop service *3 b) 1 wte Social worker *3 c) 0.5 wte admin support	To increase the proportion of LAC who are found adoption placements as required by Quality Protects MAP Objective 1 and the Government's Adoption Strategy. Increase agreed in 2000/1 MAP to achieve our aim is of increasing assessment of adopters from 40 in 99/00 to 55 in 00/01 and 60 in 01 / 02, and thus meet the LPP target which require us to increase percentage of Adoption placements of 6% of LAC by 2001 and 7% by 2002. The enquiries from prospective adopters have doubled in the last 2 years. We need increased admin support to process applications and free up social workers time for recruitment and assessment to meet increased adoption targets (see above). To meet adoption targets we need to attract adopters for 25 children with especially challenging needs. To do this we need to be able to offer financial support. We also plan to secure stability for 8 children by converting their existing long term foster placements to adoption placements. These placements would not be sustainable without the payment of adoption allowances. Currently we have no formally dedicated Post Adoption support. This is an area which needs development and which was subject to a motion by SS Committee in November 99 following presentation of the Adoption Agency Annual report. Questionnaires surveyed adopters and the response confirms FPS view that developing this work is long overdue and a priority if we are to encourage adopters to take more hard to place children. We propose a 2 year strategy with a Co-ordinator to develop the work and identify capacity/ demand, work with partner agencies on policy/ procedures etc. This post will enhance stability of adoption placements and help prevent adopted children return to the LAC system. The additional FTE social worker would consist of two 0.5 social workers focussing on S51 (birth record) counselling and Letter Box contact respectively. Currently there is no dedicated admin support to post adoption work. The above posts will need additional admin support if their time is to be focussed on development work and client contact.	49	19	150	27	25	7
Total expenditure planned for - Placement Choice - Adoption		49	228	277			
Total Expenditure planned for Placement Choice (including Adoption)		138	572	710			

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2 - Assessment				
2.1 - Implementation of Assessment Framework				
	To develop new Assessment Framework as required by Quality Protects MAP Objective 7.			
*3 Assessment Framework training	Costs of training for all staff in the new CSF Service whom have not received training in 2000/2001 (including staff currently employed in the Education Dept.)		20	20
Total expenditure planned for Assessment		0	20	20
3 - Quality Assurance & Management Information				
3.1 - Quality Assurance				
*3 1.0 wte M2 Quality Assurance Officer	To develop Management Information and Quality Assurance systems as required by Quality Protects MAP Objective 11. To work alongside managers and staff to help them implement the new Quality Management framework for the CSF Service and to develop the links between QM and Management information at team/ unit level especially via the 'team metrics' process which the QM framework is introducing.		40	40
3.2 - Management Information				
*1 a) 10.0 wte H3 Team Administrators for District Teams	FYE costs of 2000/1 MAP development which has considerably enhanced QP data inputting and freed up SW time for more client contact.	20		20
Total expenditure planned for Quality Assurance & Management Information		20	40	60
4 - Participation of Children and Families				
4.1 - Advocacy Service				
*1 Contract for Advocacy service contracted to Voice of the Child in Care to provide Advocacy service for 800 Looked after Children	As required by Quality Protects MAP Objective 8 Full year effect costs of 2000/1 MAP development to meet recommendation of Joint Review and SSI inspection of Children's Services.	50		50
4.2 - Independent Visiting Service				
*1 Independent Visiting Service	To provide and support pool of Independent Visitors for LAC who have no family contact. Full year effect costs of 2000/1 MAP development to meet statutory Children Act requirement and recommendation of SSI inspection of Children's Services.		15	15
4.3 - Listening to Children				
*3 a) Professional Assistant to carry out consultation work with young people and families, foster carers and staff.	In 1999/2000 and 2000/1 this role has been carried out by seconded staff financed from QP budget slippage and has been instrumental in the success of the Listening to Children Strategy and in meeting target to consult at least 50% of LAC about services.		25	25
*3 b) Consultation and Participation Focus Group & Development Work with looked after children and children in need	To continue to run consultation groups and participation events with looked after children, and extend the Listening to Children Strategy to Children in need to meet target to consult at least 25% of families using Family Support centres. In 1999/2000 and 2000/1 this work has been financed from QP budget slippage.		20	20
*3 c) Extension of Listening to Children Strategy to Schools & Education	To extend the highly successful Listening to Children Strategy to children in schools and further education by running consultation groups and participation events and setting up schools councils.		40	40
4.4 - Celebrating Achievement of Looked After Children				
*3 Quadrant Fund for celebrating LAC achievements	Looked After Children fed back to us that they would like it if we celebrated their achievements. They would also like to receive a present from their social worker on their birthdays, and at Christmas or their most significant festival. Members gave an undertaking to the children that we would meet this request at the LAC Event Day and in the "Promise Cards".		20	20
Total expenditure planned for Participation of Children and Families		50	120	170

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5 - Life Chances of Looked After Children				
5.1 - Leisure Sports and Culture Opportunit *3 a) Professional Assistant to develop Leisure, Sports and Culture Opportunit for Looked After Children, plus small development budget for initiatives	For young people, achievement is about more than academic achievement. This officer will help children to build up links with local sports clubs, and other community leisure facilities, and also enhance their ability to access lifelong learning opportunities. This will help to gainfully occupy their leisure time, whilst enhancing their social integration and improving their self-esteem.		29	29
Total expenditure planned for Life Chances of Looked After Children		0	29	29
6 - Managing Change				
6.1 - Senior Practitioners *1 10. wte Senior Practitioner SWs for the Districts	FYE effect of 2000/1 development to enhance retention of most experienced SW practitioners in District Teams. They have been given a Quality Protects lead role within social work teams, to ensure the development of good practice amongst their colleagues, particularly in the area of assessment and care planning.	242		242
6.2 - Staff Training *3 Children's Services Priority Training Courses	Contribution to costs of Training courses identified as priority in Objective 10: Total Respect (Listening to Children), Towards Safer Care, NVQ Level 3 (target 40% by 2002) and PQ1 (target 20% by 2002).		80	80
Total expenditure planned for Managing Change		242	80	322
Quality Protects Special Grant Expenditure - Total (excl Children with Disabilities and Leaving Care)		450	861	1,311
			Allocation	1,894
			Variance	-583

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7 - Services for Disabled Children				
7.1 - Residential				
*2 a) Mendip Unit - revenue costs of 3/4 place Residential Respite Care & Resource Centre at Lonsdale School in Stevenage	2001/02 funding agreed in 1999/2000 MAP to pick up funding of Joint Finance development opened this year, making use of school resource to meet residential respite care shortfall in North of County. To help meet target of increasing the percentage of looked after children in respite care to 15.5% in 2001, and 18.2% in 2002.	204		204
*2 b) Ripon Road Long Term Residential Unit - revenue costs of 8 Bed long term unit in Stevenage	2001/02 development agreed in 1999/2000 MAP. To meet in-County long-term residential shortfall and help children keep in touch with their families.		333	333
*3 c) Improvements to current CWD Residential Homes (Woolmer Drive and Gables)	To bring the 2 CWD residential homes up to the staff level required by Registration and Inspection		74	74
7.2 - Workers for Disabled Children				
*3 4.0 wte Professional Assistants - one for each quadrant	To allow Quadrant Disability Teams to pick up the support and review functions for children in respite care, which is only been offered to a minimal extent at present. This will help meet statutory review requirements and QP care planning objectives.		94	94
7.3 - Transition				
*3 Transition workers x 2	No capacity within CWD teams to undertake required level of work with these young people aged 15-21, who are currently falling through the gaps between children's and adults services.		36	36
7.4 - Children with Complex Behavioral Problems				
*3 Flexible family-based respite service for children with ADHD and other complex behaviour problems.	We have had MPs enquiries about this service not being provided. Funding for block contracts in each quadrant to develop this service, to prevent family breakdown. Currently only provided in south west of County (by Mencap) on a spot purchase basis. This is very expensive and is resulting in a large overspend in children's home care budget, so development will also give better value for money.		36	36
7.5 - Support Services				
*3 Funding for additional Support Services	Additional places in playschemes, out of school clubs, and leisure services. This will enhance disabled children's quality of life whilst giving respite to parents (thus helping prevent family breakdown).		20	20
Total expenditure planned for Services for Disabled Children		204	593	797
		Allocation		214
		Variance		583
Quality Protects Special Grant Expenditure - Total (incl Children with Disabilities, but excl Leaving Care)		654	1,454	2,108
		Allocation		2,108
		Variance		0

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8 - Leaving Care				
8.1 - NCH Leaving Care Service *1 Support Service for Care Leavers to be run by NCH in conjunction with their Phoenix Project and Supportive Lodgings Services	Support to Care Leavers as required by Quality Protects MAP Objective 5: Leaving Care; also as recommended by SSI inspection. FYE of 2000/01 NCH development agreed in 1999/2000 MAP plus costs of meeting implementation of Care Leavers Act in October 2001.	71	55	126
8.2 - Care leavers aged 16 -21 in Higher and Further Education *3 Higher & Further Education costs	Currently 40 young people aged 18-21 are in higher and further education. Our aim is to expand this to 60 by 2004, by increasing County Council sponsorship of care leavers in higher and further education. This will help meet the NHS Plan target of 75% of care leavers in education, training and employment by 2004.		300	300
8.3 - Care leavers Access to Records *3 1.0 wte H8 Client Access to Records Editor for Care Leavers	As recommended by SSI Inspection Action Plan. With a predicted increase of approximately 100 applications from Care Leavers additional resources will be required to manage this new service to a high standard and grant access within the 40 day timescale as required by the Data Protection Act.		30	30
Total expenditure planned for Leaving Care		71	385	456
Allocation				456
Variance				0
Quality Protects Special Grant Expenditure - Grand Total (incl Children with Disabilities and Leaving Care)		725	1,839	2,564
Allocation				2,564
Variance				0

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